USA TODAY NETWORK

Gunman kills 5 in newsroom

Maryland suspect in custody; 3 also wounded at newspaper

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Courier Journal
Louisville, Kentucky
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United States Attorney Russell M. Coleman, right, speaks during an announcement Thursday regarding a national health care fraud investigation that included 10 Kentucky health care providers. PHOTOS BY ALTON STRUPP/COURIER JOURNAL

National drug raid nets 10 Ky. doctors

Suspects include city psychiatrist

Beth Warren
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

The nation's largest crackdown on health care fraud netted 56 doctors – including a Louisville psychiatrist accused of prescribing a patient fentanyl, a drug blamed for more Jefferson County deaths than heroin or homicides.

"We will not tolerate drug dealers in lab coats," said D. Christopher Evans, special agent in charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration's newly created Louisville Field Division.

"If you're a doctor and you're prescribing dangerous narcotics in a reckless or irresponsible manner, we're coming after you."

The crackdown in Louisville and across the nation involved more than 600 defendants – some accused of running pill mills – and more than $2 billion in medical fraud.

The role medical professionals played in the deadly opioid crisis is "staggering in scope," U.S. Attorney Russell Coleman, top federal prosecutor for Jefferson County and the Western District of Kentucky, told reporters during a news conference Thursday.

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Charges from the investigation, which involved more than 600 defendants, included fraud as well as unlawfully dispensing of controlled substances.

Officials: Explorer won't be returning

Report's tips to rehab program to go unused

Andrew Wolfson and Phillip M. Bailey
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Despite recommendations about how to make the Louisville police department's Explorer Scout program safer, Mayor Greg Fischer and Chief Steve Conrad said they have no plans to revive it.

Three Metro Council members who reviewed the unredacted version of an investigatory report commissioned by the city said they would never let their own children participate in the program.

Fischer suspended the program in March 2017 after the Courier Journal reported details from a lawsuit by a former Scout who alleged that he had been abused by two police officers and that the department had covered it up.

The 90-page report, which was released Wednesday, says Explorer programs offer benefits to Scouts, who get real training and a glimpse of the professional life of a law enforcement officer and police agencies, who develop a pool of recruits.

But U.S. Attorney Kerry Harvey, who ran the investigation, noted that sex abuse of Scouts was not limited to the allegations in Louisville.

The Courier Journal reported in 2017 that over the past 40 years, at least 137 girls and 26 boys in Explorer programs across the nation have been raped, seduced, fondled, kissed, dated or otherwise exploited in 28 states by at least 129 law enforcement officers, firefighters and other advisers. Some cities that suspended Explorer programs decided never to revive them, the story said.

Councilwoman Jessica Green, a Democrat, said her 9-year-old son has expressed interest in being a detective with the department's canine unit and the Explorer program would have been good for him, but she wouldn't allow him to participate.

"At this juncture, I don't know if the Explorer program would ever come

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Find more online

Find a timeline of events and past coverage on the Explorer Scout program at **courierjournal.com**.

USA TODAY

Women in politics: Female candidates are tackling taboo subjects in their campaign ads. **1B**

Haymarket lawsuit to proceed

Judge denies motions to dismiss defamation, conspiracy allegations. **Metro, 3A**

Weather

High 93° ▮ Low 76°
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